OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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RECEIVED LETTER TO COMM

Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE:

March 8, 2011

SUBJECT: 2011 Miami Beach Police Department L.E.O. Award Winners

This Letter to the City Commission is to announce the Miami Beach Police Department's recognition at the 2010 Annual LEO (Law Enforcement Officer) Awards banquet held at the Miami Beach Convention Center on March 5, 2011. The Department won two out of the six major categories that all Miami-Dade law enforcement agencies (approximately 40) compete and are eligible for.

The ceremony concluded with the following honors being given to three Miami Beach Police Department employees. Officer Duane Rezende was selected as the winner for the LEO Awards Specialized Services Division, Category 3. Public Safety Specialist Yarden Rosenthal was selected as the winner for the LEO Awards Support Services Division, Category 3 winner. Detective Ricardo Arias was honored for his November 2010 Miami Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police Officer of the Month selection.

It should be noted that the MBPD was eligible to nominate individuals in six LEO Award classifications and won two of the six categories, for an impressive 33 % of the awards for their agency size. The aforementioned categories include Uniform Services, Investigative Services, Crime Prevention/Community Policing, Specialized Services, Safety, and Support Services. Each of these categories is then divided into three subdivisions according to police agency size. The Miami Beach Police Department is a category 3 size agency.

Officer Duane Rezende was nominated for his courage and heroism during a high profile marine rescue during a violent tropical storm. A diver had become separated from his boat and a mayday call was sent out prompting this Marine Patrol Officer to risk his life to save another.

Public Service Specialist Yarden Rosenthal was nominated for her willingness to perform duties outside her normal assignment. This P.S.S. has won the accolades of the MBPD and the community she serves by her consistently high level of dedication and positive attitude.

Detective Ricardo Arias was also recognized for his selection as the Miami Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police November 2010 Officer of the Month. Detective Arias was selected Officer of the Month for his extraordinary investigative efforts in a major multimillion dollar criminal conspiracy involving fraudulent credit and gift cards, and stolen checking account information. As a result of his Officer of the Month selection, Detective Arias was a finalist for the LEO Officer of the Year Award

Please join me in recognizing these hard working individuals for their extraordinary accomplishments.

JMG:CN:tr